



## 2016 - 2017 Agenda & Notes

<https://goo.gl/d6XND3>

*The ELL Network is a forum for school personnel to discuss issues related to serving English Language Learners. These sessions are the primary means of sharing information throughout the ESU 4 Title III Consortium; however, a majority of our time is devoted to studying effective instruction, sharing and exploring resources, learning of updates from NDE, and networking with colleagues. We welcome all districts and personnel interested in English Language Learners, regardless of Title III affiliation or position.*

**For more information and materials, please visit**

**[www.esu4ell.wikispaces.com](http://www.esu4ell.wikispaces.com)**

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**April 27, 2017**

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: **ESU 6, Milford NE**

Cost: \$0 (no lunch included)

### **Recommended Agenda Additions:**

- *Add your discussion topics/questions to this list. Please include your name.*

### **Attendees**

*Please add your name and district to the list!*

- Jen Madison, ESU 4
- Nick Ziegler, ESU 5
- Vicki Anderson, Concordia University
- Kelley Limback, Concordia University
- Jon Squier - Malcolm Public Schools
- Jocelyn Gray, Seward Public Schools
- Beth Roelfs, Diller-Odell Schools
- Jan Liscom, Diller-Odell Schools
- Brooke David, NDE (Zoom)
- Jill Shea, Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools
- Sarah Burr, Syracuse Public Schools
- Julia Odgers, Norris Public Schools

- Kyla Petersen, Dorchester Public School
- Lisa Weber Johnson County Central
- Peter Lyness, Milford Public Schools
- Ashleigh Lange, Nebraska City Public Schools
- Lisa Happold- Doniphan-Trumbull
- Heather Lemon, Nebraska City Public Schools
- Connie Biaggio - Seward Schools
- Salome Ausin-Dodge, Beatrice Public Schools
- Cara Williams, Lewiston Consolidated

## Agenda & Notes

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### 9:00 Welcome, Agenda Overview, Introductions

- This Google doc agenda will also serve as our collaborative note taking space. Please help record ideas, information, and questions in a professional manner. After the meeting, Jen will finalize this document with our notes, and post it at <http://esu4ell.wikispaces.com/ELL+Network>.
- Consider joining the [ELL Resources Google + Community](#)! (Ask to join, and Jen will approve your membership. Please share the link with others who are interested!)
- Please prepare to introduce yourself and (if you want to) add yourself to our [contact list](#).

### 9:30 am Strategy/Resource Study: Fostering Empowered Learners, Nick Ziegler

- Log into <https://www.sophia.org> to access our SE NE Consortium training materials. Once logged in, join the SE NE Consortium group with this access code: f23c27
  - We learned and were reminded of several important ideas related to fostering empowered learners: growth mindset, self-regulation and goal-setting toward empowering learners, and the use of [SeeSaw](#) for student portfolios.
  - We considered several ideas for uses of SeeSaw such as students might give tours of the school in English and/or L1.
- Nick also shared a summer opportunity with the group:
  - ESU 5 Tech Fair - Focus on Fostering 21st Century Skills
    - <https://sites.google.com/a/esu5.org/esu5-tech-fair/>
    - June 5 & 6 in Beatrice, NE

### 10:45 am Rule 15 Check-Up: *Section 003: Identification*

- *This brief review of Sections 003 & 007, using [Appendix D of the Rule 15 Guide for Implementation](#), will allow us to discuss particular sections of Rule 15. This is your opportunity to ask questions, gather ideas, and determine needs.*
- General Resources:
  - [Rule 15](#)
  - [Nebraska ESEA/NCLB...Monitoring Guide Checklist](#), p. 28-29
  - [Nebraska English Language Proficiency \(ELP\) Standards](#)
- Parent Notification Letter Resources
  - [TransAct](#)
  - [Title III Text - Parent Notification Requirements](#)
  - [Shared Parent Letters](#) (If your district's letter is not in the folder, Jen wasn't sure she had permission to share. She can access it for you from a different folder.)

- The [Norfolk letter](#) is one shared with us as an exemplar.
- Each participant reviewed her district's current initial placement letter according to the requirements outlined in the Title III law ([Title III Text - Parent Notification Requirements](#)). We considered each requirement with reading, discussion, comparison to samples such as TransAct and the [Norfolk letter](#) shared with us as a model.
- The group decided to write a letter for initial and/or continuing placement and commission translations in our most needed languages. Brooke and Terri confirmed previously that we can use Title III funds for this purpose. Other discussion followed:
  - Districts would not be obligated to use the letter.
  - Districts would be encouraged to use their own letterhead.
  - We may need to also write a letter for notification of exit.
- [Our Working Draft](#)
- Jen will clean up the draft, send it to Brooke and Terri for review, and find translator(s). *She will try to have at least the Spanish version ready for fall enrollment, but this is not guaranteed.*

## Network & Discussion Items

- [Concordia University ESL Endorsement & TESOL Masters Program](#)
  - [Kelley Limback](#), College of Graduate Studies & Adult Education
  - [Vicki Anderson](#), College of Graduate Studies & Adult Education, Intercultural Studies & Modern Languages
  - Concordia has an ESL Endorsement program (see more at <http://www.cune.edu/academics/graduate/education-endorsements/eslell-endorsement/>) and a Masters of Education in TESOL program (see more at <http://www.cune.edu/academics/graduate/med/tesol/>), but Concordia is also interested to know how else we can help you and your district. Professional development events? Special courses or professional development events to teach sheltered instruction methods for working with ELLs to general content teachers? If you've got ideas, please contact either Vicki ([vicki.anderson@cune.edu](mailto:vicki.anderson@cune.edu)) or Kelley ([kelley.limback@cune.edu](mailto:kelley.limback@cune.edu)) to get the ball rolling at exploring possibilities.
  - MidTESOL (See [www.midtesol.org](http://www.midtesol.org) for lots of resources, plus information about the upcoming September 29-30, 2017, conference in Kansas City); ideas for how MidTESOL can best benefit Nebraska? Maybe through a state-wide conference for K-12 ELL issues (held in Lincoln, maybe, and live-streamed via Internet through the state?)
  - Other grants for coursework: TEACH, EETP (For the most up-to-date information about these, you can contact Concordia Director of Graduate Admissions Jodi Groeteke ([jodi.groeteke@cune.edu](mailto:jodi.groeteke@cune.edu)), or find general information online.)
- The [Homestead National Monument](#) now has staff that can conduct their programs in Spanish. (Shared by Annette Wiese, ESU 5, 1.31.17)
- NDE HS EL Collaboration Meeting, 3.8.17
  - Jen, Ita (Harvard), Ashleigh, & Heather (Nebraska City) attended this meeting to which districts with "middle-sized" HS EL populations were invited to identify current issues and share ideas.
  - Several items were discussed including age-appropriate grade placement, SLIFE students, pathways to graduation, collaboration with HS content colleagues, family engagement and support, course development, additional supports for secondary ELs. While "solutions" weren't the focus of this particular day, I (Jen) was inspired by ideas shared by others.
- How have you used and shared the [NDE EL Welcome and Intake Module](#)? (Remember, a new user must establish an NDE moodle account before accessing the module.)
- What have you learned from this round of NeSA and ACT testing?

- Jen reminded participants that the State Board of Education is currently in the process of selecting a new test vendor for the state tests in grades 3-8. The new test vendor may not be DRC, which may mean a change in the NeSA format. We expect information in May.
- Jen had several resources from the Title III library available for check-out and reminded participants that we have many EL-related professional resources and student materials. Ask Jen if you have a particular resource or topic in mind.

## 12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch (on your own)

## 1:00 pm NDE Updates, Brooke David (Zoom)

- A recording of Brook's segment is available, please contact Jen to access it.
- [NDE Updates Slides](#) (ESSA, Title III, Rule 15, ELPA21, ELPA Screener)
- ELPA21 Summative Update
  - **Nebraska ELPA21 Online Reporting System Training Webinar, May 1, 10:30 am**
    - **Register now:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2252873319033155586>
    - This webinar will review how to use the ELPA21 Online Reporting System to access results for a school, classroom, or individual student. We will also show participants how to create data files with school and district results and how to create PDFs of individual student reports. This webinar is intended for Nebraska district and school users of the ELPA21 Online Reporting System.
    - (Added 5.1.17) A [recording](#) of the Online Reporting System (ORS) webinar is now available in the [Resources](#) section of the [Nebraska Portal](#). This webinar reviews how to use the Online Reporting System to access results for a district, school, or individual student. We also demonstrate how to create data files with district and school results and how to create PDFs of individual student reports.

## Title III Consortium Updates

- Monitoring Visit Notes
  - Thank you for sending/uploading your district's parent notification letters in a timely manner! The visit went smoothly overall, and we did not receive findings that require immediate follow-up. *We will, however, need to ensure that each district's parent notification meets the requirements of Title III law.*
  - [ESU 4 Monitoring Visit Findings](#)
- [Professional Development Offerings](#)
  - Do you have a regional or national training/conference you would like to attend this summer? Please talk with Jen to see if it qualifies for Title III support!
  - Do you have ideas of training we should offer?
    - Translators' Training (Rosemary Cervantes)?
    - Classroom Instruction that Works with ELLs?
    - Jo Guzman ([List of Workshops](#))?
  - [UNL eWorkshops](#): Jen recently learned of these modules being offered by UNL. EL topics such as the stages of language acquisition and more can be studied by PLCs via online modules. Jen is learning more about these for possible use next year.



- ESL Endorsement Coursework: In certain circumstances, Title III can support coursework toward an ESL endorsement. If you are planning to take a summer course, contact Jen to find out more.
- Grant Information
  - [2016-17 ESU 4 Title III Grant description](#)
  - Budget
    - **We have significant carryover to spend prior to September 2017 for both LEP and IE. Please make sure all qualifying expenses are submitted for reimbursement as soon as possible. Talk with Jen if you anticipate expenses in the summer or early fall.**
  - [2017-18 Commitment Paperwork](#)
    - All districts have submitted their consortium commitment paperwork for 2017-18! Thank you for being advocates in your districts!
    - Jen tries to connect with superintendents at least once per year via ESU gatherings. To see a sample of what was recently shared (or will be shared) visit this link: <https://www.smore.com/j012d>.
- ELL Network
  - To see the feedback from our previous session [visit this link](#). (Note that these are results from all ELL Network sessions so far in 2016-17.)
  - Jen requested feedback about tentative dates and the format for next year's ELL Networks. Here's a summary of what Jen heard:
    - Three days per year is necessary and sufficient.
      - The fall session could be in early October or late September.
      - The winter session needs to be before the ELPA21 window.
      - For the spring date, late April or early May is fine; however, the last Friday in May is usually also a conflict for SPED directors.)
    - Full days are preferred; we often have full agendas.
    - Fridays are preferred when possible.
    - Summer dates are difficult to predict; however, late May or early June would be best for summer opportunities.
    - Keep a program review workday on the schedule. We talked about other options for timing (e.g., summer); however, most seemed to prefer early December.
  - 2017-18 Dates TENTATIVE - Jen will publish and send dates later this spring.
    - September 22, 2017 (maybe early October in future?)
    - December (Friday? Program Review)
    - January 24, 2018 (before ELPA21)
    - April 27, 2018 (change this date...pref. not last Friday in April)
- Supplemental Program Updates
  - [Imagine Learning](#) Update
    - We currently have 65 licenses, and we will renew later this spring through May 2018.
    - We will upgrade to the Cloud version in early June 2017.
      - Benefits
        - Student progress should roll over to new version.
        - Updated activities and videos
        - Decreases consortium cost (We have been contracting annually for a space on a virtual server. This will no longer be necessary.)
      - Access
        - Web: [Go.imaginelearning.com](http://Go.imaginelearning.com)

- Imagine Learning App: (**preferred**, will need to update server/site code)
- The site code will be unique to each district. I will help you get your specific code after the update.
- What do you need to do to prepare?
  - If you plan to use Imagine Learning for summer programs, please email me.
  - Please communicate with your tech people that there will be an update with Imagine Learning in June. If you email me the name and email address of the appropriate person in your district, I will help with this communication.
  - Ensure that as a teacher you have an accurate email address as the account name.
  - Ensure that your teacher password is at least 8 characters, with at least 1 number.
  - Ensure that student accounts have passwords (4 characters). *Jen will add a generic password if necessary.*
  - Update each student's grade level.
- Rosetta Stone Update
  - We are paid through May 2018 for 38 licenses.
  - Our representative is Andrea Yampolski, [AYampolsky@rosettastone.com](mailto:AYampolsky@rosettastone.com).

### Needs Assessment Activity & Discussion (postponed until fall 2018)

- *This portion of the needs assessment was postponed until fall 2018 to allow for drafting of our consortium placement letter.*
- [Title III Required & Authorized Activities](#) (2.16.17)
- [Title III Authorized Activities Analysis & Notes](#)

### 2:50 pm Close & Adjourn

- Please complete the [Event Survey](#) for today!
- Don't forget to submit a [Funding Request form](#) for your mileage (\$0.535 / mile)! If you've never been issued a check by ESU 4, you will also need to submit a W-9 form. Substitute reimbursement to districts will be based on the sign-in sheet.

### Next Steps / Items for Next Session

- ALL
  - Please plan to submit your district's updated Rule 15 ELL Program Review written report to me by June 30, 2017.
  - Contact Jen about Imagine Learning for summer use and tech person contact information for update.
  - Submit all requests for reimbursement as soon as possible!
- Jen
  - For fall meeting: have participants bring resources/materials; include significant time for sharing and record materials match to grade and/or language level according to ELP standards
  - For fall meeting: include postponed needs assessment activity based on required activities and include a district-specific needs assessment activity/form.
  - For fall meeting: ask Ita to talk about family event